

A Short
ACCOUNT
OF THE
LATTER END
AND
Dying Words
OF
FRANCIS HOWGIL,

**Who dyed a Prisoner for the Testimo-
ny of Jesus, in Appulby the Twentieth Day
of the Eleaventh Moneth, 1668.**

*The Memorial of the Just is blessed; the Righteous shall be had
in Everlasting Remembrance: But the Name of the Wicked
shall rot.*

This is Printed and Published in the Year 1671. for
Friends, at the desire of some; because many have
not seen it (nor could so well have it) in
Manuscript,

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A GOOD

OF THE
MATTER END

TO THE

FRANCIS HOWARD

1777

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AS for the time of dear *F. Howgil* his Sickness (which he endured with much Patience and Chearfulness) he begun the Eleaventh of the Eleaventh Moneth, 1668. (and continued till the Twentieth Day of the same Moneth) and then departed this Life; having then, for the Testimony of Jesus, been Prisoner *Four Years and Eleaven Moneths*: He was not unsensible of the

Decay of his *outward Man* some time before, which moved him to a disposal of his *outward Estate*, and the setting of his *House* in order: His Love was very dear to his *Brethren* and *Fellow-labourers*, with whom he had laboured and travelled in the *Work of the Ministry*; In *Testimony* whereof, he left to each of them something, as a *Remembrance* of his Love; and also was mindful of the *Church*, and left a *Legacie* to be distributed amongst the *Poor* of the *Household of Faith* in these *Parts*.

And though the *Time* of his *Departure* did draw very nigh, and his *Sickness* encreased, yet in all that time he was in perfect and good *Remembrance*, and oftentimes very fervent in *Prayer*, and uttered many comfortable *Expressions*, to the great *Refreshment* of those who were with him.

And about two dayes before his going hence, being attended by his *Dear Wife*, and several *Friends*, he began to say unto them, *Friends*, as to matter of words, you must not expect much more from me; neither is there any great need of it, as to speak of *Matters of Faith* to you, who are satisfied; only, that you remember my *Dear Love* to all *Friends*, who enquire of me; for I ever loved *Friends* well, or any in whom *Truth* abounded. And truly God will own his *People*, as he
bath

hath even hitherto done, and as we have daily witnessed; for, no sooner had they made that Act against us for Banishment (to the great Suffering of many good Friends) but the Lord stirred up Enemies against them, even three great Nations, wherby the Violence of their Hand was taken off: And I say again, God will own his People, even all those that are faithful. And as for me, I am well, & content to dye; I am not at all afraid of Death. And truly one thing was of late in my Heart, and that I intended to have written to G. F. and others, even that which I have observed, which thing is, That this Generation passeth fast away; we see many good and precious Friends within these few Years have been taken from us, and therefore Friends had need to watch, and be very faithful, so that we may leave a good (and not a bad) savour to the next succeeding Generation; for you see, that it is but a little time that any of us have to stay here.

And often, in the time of his Sickness, he said, He was content to dye, and that he was ready, and praised God for those many sweet Enjoyments and Refreshments he had received on that his Prison House Bed, whereon he lay; freely forgiving all who had a hand in his Restraint.

And he said, This was the Place of my first Imprisonment (for the Truth) here at this Town; and

if it be the Place of my laying down the Body, well, I
am content.

Several Persons of note, Inhabitants in Appul-
by afore said, as the Mayor, and others, came to
visit him; some of which praying, *That God*
might speak Peace to his Soul (he sweetly replied,
He hath done it) and they all spoke well of him:
So that he hath left an exceeding good Testimony
for the Lord in this Place, to the great Honour of
Truth, and our mutual Comfort.

And a few Hours before his Departure, some
Friends (who lived several Miles from that Place)
came to visit him; he enquired of all their Well-
fare, and pray'd very fervently (with many Hea-
venly Expressions) *That the Lord, by his Mighty*
Power, might preserve them out of all such things as
would spot and defile.

And a little after, he was saying something con-
cerning Weeks (or a Time) after which Persecu-
tion shou'd be ended; but his Weakness was so
great, and his Voice so low, that it was not fully
heard by us.

A little season after, he recovering a little
strength, further said, *I have sought the Way of the*
Lord from a Child, and lived innocently, as amongst men;
and if any enquire concerning my Latter End, let them
know

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know, that I dye in that Faith in which I lived, and suffered for.

And after these words, he spake some other in Prayer unto God, and sweetly finished his Course in much Peace with the Lord, as we that were present had clear and perfect ground to believe; he being all along in a precious Heavenly Frame of Spirit, and was filled with the refreshing Presence of the Lord, which we alwayes felt to abound in him to his very last.

F. H. dyed the 20th of the 11th Moneth, 1668. in the Fiftieth Year of his Age.

*Appulby, the 20th
of the 12th Moneth,
1668.*

John Bolton { *of Bongale in*
 Westmoreland,
Edward Guy,
Anthony Pinder,
Thomas Loughorn,
Richard Pinder,
Thomas Carleton.

THE END.